

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY POLLUTION REPORT

I. HEADING

Date: September 1, 1998

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|------------|--|--------------------|
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Subject: Vacant Lot Site

POLREP#: Polrep # 1

II. BACKGROUND

Site ID No.: A527

Delivery Order No.: USACE - 0055

Response Authority: CERCLA (ERPA)

CERCLA Incident Category: Non-Time-Critical Removal

CERCLIS ID#: ILR000054759

NPL Status: Non-NPL

Action Memorandum Signed: May 6, 1998

Start Date: August 4, 1998

Demobilization Date: NA

III. RESPONSE INFORMATION

- A. The Vacant Lot site is a 6.4-acre parcel of land located at the northeast corner of Commonwealth Avenue and 22nd Street in North Chicago, Lake County Illinois. The site is transected by Pettibone Creek, an intermittent water body that lies in a relatively steep-sided ravine, and originates at the northwest boundry of the site. The creek flows to the south on site, and then flows east to finally merge into Lake Michigan (1.5 miles from the site). Historical information indicates that the site has been utilized by nearby industries for waste



disposal. The source, quantity, and nature of the materials brought to the site is not well documented. However, reports of foundry sand and tailings deposition at the site is consistent with descriptions of materials observed on site. Numerous sampling events have been conducted at the site since 1984 by State and local officials. Elevated levels of heavy metals, chlorinated solvents, PAHs, pesticides, and PCBs were detected in on-site soil samples.

In September of 1994, the U.S.EPA conducted a Site assessment at the request of Illinois EPA. Several soil and sediment samples were collected, including samples from the location of the previous underground fire incident. Generally, elevated levels of heavy metals (including arsenic, beryllium, and lead), TCE, and PCBs were detected at the site.

Based upon the Site characterization data and the results of the Streamlined Risk Evaluation and the Streamlined Ecological Risk Evaluation, removal action objectives were developed to provide a basis for the identification and evaluation of alternatives for a non-time-critical removal action. Removal action objectives were developed for those areas of the site which were determined to exceed a risk of 1 in 100,000, an HI of 1, or for those areas which have a high potential to release contaminants to the environment.

B. Action Taken

The following actions were accomplished during the period of August 4-31, 1998:

Site mobilization, construction of support and decontamination zones.

The Health and Safety Plan was finalized prior to work activities.

Fence was constructed around site perimeter.

Meeting with local officials to discuss workplan and respond to all questions or concerns.

Clear all vegetation from the ravine area and initiate chipping operation.

Conduct additional sampling to characterize soil for waste disposal and further delineate PCB area.

Install silt fence in creek and construct cross-over for vehicle traffic at mid point of creek.

Setup perimeter air monitoring program, and develop dust control measures.

Excavation of soils at the southwest section, the first three grids were completed and confirmed clean, ~ 2000yds stockpiled awaiting disposal.

IV. NEXT STEPS

Continue chipping operation to dispose of all vegetation.

Continue soil excavation, and disposal of stockpile.

Prepare for possible excavation of creek sediments.

Arrange disposal for concrete which is encountered during excavation work.

Continue to delineate PCB contamination on site.

Prepare cost analysis to determine treatment options for hazardous lead soils.

V. KEY ISSUES

No key issues to report

VI. COST TO DATE as of 8/31/98

| Subject | Amount Budgeted | Amount Used | Amount Remaining |
|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| U.S. EPA | \$ NA | \$ | \$ |
| U.S. ACE | \$ NA | \$ | \$ |
| OHM | \$1,505,089.00 | \$ 225,878.00 | \$ 1,279,211.00 |
| TOTAL | \$1,505,089.00 | \$ 225,878.00 | \$ 1,279,211.00 |

VII. WASTE DISPOSAL SUMMARY

| <u>Wastestream</u> | <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Manifest #</u> | <u>Disposal</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Non-haz soil | | | |
| Hazardous soil | | | |